



Status Report for Behavioral Health Pipeline Mapping Recommendations

Medical Care Advisory
Committee
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Completed Items

- Reimbursement rates were increased for APRNs, PAs and Midwives through the 2015 Legislative Session, effective July 1, 2015.
- Training on Medicaid billing for providers has been significantly improved, based on staff participation at April 2016 training.



Pending Items

- A State Plan Amendment currently under CMS review includes expansion of provider qualifications for reimbursement of Psychological Interns.
- The Provider Portal will be modified for self-report capability related to panel status.



Pending Items

- Extend reimbursement to Psychiatric Nurses.
 - Pending Governor's Recommended Budget.
- Stakeholder Outreach has been expanded.
 - Policy changes are going through a public workshop prior to public hearing to get consumer and stakeholder input.



Stalled Items

- Reimbursement rates for Psychologists may be enhanced through establishing tiered rates, without increasing the overall funding available for this provider type.
 - Funds could be reallocated, resulting in reduced rates for providers in a lower tier.



Stalled Items

- Upgrade Licensed Clinical Drug and Alcohol Counselors to Qualified Mental Health Providers.
 - If approved in the future, they would roll into the tiered rates structure referenced above.



Stalled Items

- The Division is in support of a recommendation to re-address a concern with interns serving in a supervisory role, and will schedule a public workshop prior to policy implementation.
- Reimbursement of telehealth supervision is not currently a priority due to staff vacancy.



Rejected Items

- Increased facility fees for special clinics, e.g., school based health clinics, are not included in the budget priorities for the next biennium.
 - APRNs can bill under their individual provider type to receive higher reimbursement rates.



Highlights for Progress

- Administration support for rate increases for APRNs, PAs and Midwives.
- Training improvements may have been in response to internal communications.
- Inclusion of items in State Plan Amendment is necessary but not sufficient.
- Provider Portal is convenient but may not be effective.



Highlights for Progress

- Timeframes should be created for workshops and public hearings, with greater transparency for stakeholders.



Challenges for Stalled Items

- Priorities should be established for tiered rates, with greater transparency for stakeholders.
- Public safety issues, e.g., interns serving in a supervisory role, should be prioritized for resolution.
- Reimbursement of telehealth supervision might be researched through sister agency.



Resources

- Primary Care Workforce Development Office can assist with research, outreach and facilitation.
 - New positions approved in 2015.
 - Pipeline discussion groups to be re-established with ongoing support.
 - Partnerships with NSHE, licensing boards and professional associations are leveraged.



Goals for Next Review

- Complete pending or stalled items:
 - Determine next steps for Psychology Interns
 - Public workshops/hearing for stakeholder outreach.
 - Establish measurement for utilization of provider portal.



Goals for Next Review

- Establish timeframes for stalled items:
 - Tiered rates to distinguish higher scopes of practice.
 - Public workshops/hearing for exclusion of interns from supervisory role.
 - Research reimbursement for telehealth supervision.



CONTACT

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